

## Use of the Forest (Rules)

We are glad you have decided to join us here at Clemmons Educational State Forest. If we all observe a few rules, the forest experience will be more enjoyable for everyone:

- Obey posted speed limits on the roads.
- Keep pets on a leash while at the forest..
- Remember to pick up after your pet. Pet waste bags are provided if you do not have your own.
- Do NOT remove or pick plants or flowers.
- No alcoholic beverages allowed.
- No firearms allowed.
- Fires are only permitted in grills, fireplaces and fire pits.
- No bicycles or motorized vehicles are allowed on the trails.

Check with a ranger or the posted signs for a complete listing of rules and regulations.

# REMEMBER, ONLY YOU...



[www.dfr.state.nc.us](http://www.dfr.state.nc.us)

The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Its programs, activities and employment practices are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap or political affiliation.

## Forest History

Amid the trees and undergrowth of Clemmons Educational State Forest lurk clues to the land's past. Old Longleaf pine stumps bear the scars of a practice known as "boxing" - a method of collecting sap for use in the construction of wooden ships. From the Colonial period until the end of the 19th century sap from the trees was used to make resin, pitch, turpentine, and tar, which sealed the hulls of wooden boats and ships.



Practices such as "prescribed fire" are done during the winter while the forest is closed.

Throughout the forest faint, furrows can still be seen, testimony to the farming practiced in the early 20th century. Eventually, soil erosion ended the farming and in the 1930's the Civilian Conservation Corp moved onto the land and constructed a nursery, which was then turned over to the N.C. Division of Forest Resources. As time passed, a mixture of pine and hardwoods grew to dominate a landscape that had once been a longleaf pine savannah.

In 1976, the nursery operation moved to Goldsboro and the Division of Forest Resources created North Carolina's first Educational State Forest in Clayton. As you walk the trails here at Clemmons Educational State Forest you will observe the past, present and future of the forest. Young stands of longleaf pine you see today will soon grow to resemble the forests that were here hundreds of years ago.

## About Forest Management

Clemmons Educational State Forest (ESF) is a place of many types of resources: timber, water, soil and wildlife. For each of these resources, a special plan has been developed.



*"This is a working forest."*

**Timber** – Some areas of this forest are managed for sustainable timber production. The money received from this timber helps to pay for the upkeep and maintenance of the forest. Our timber helps to support the local economy. Wouldn't you rather build your home from wood that comes from your own community or state, rather than wood shipped in from another country? Think of how much extra fuel that would use! This forest, like all working forests, pay for themselves to be replanted so your children will continue to enjoy beautiful places like Clemmons ESF.

**Water** – The cleanest water comes from forest streams and there are more than 800 acres of forest at Clemmons ESF. To ensure that water stays clean, we use Streamside Management Zones (SMZs). These are areas near a stream where extra caution is used during logging and other forestry work to protect water quality.

**Soil** - Across the forest, we install and maintain best management practices, or BMPs, to prevent and control soil erosion. Using BMPs will keep soil from washing away into the pond and streams. Keeping the soil in place also adds to the soil's ability to grow trees.

**Wildlife** – Every year, staff at Clemmons ESF conduct prescribed burns to maintain areas of open forest and promote young, new vegetation for wildlife. This also reduces the amount of debris on the ground that can build up and become a risk for wildfire. Mature trees can tolerate small, controlled fires, but large, unplanned fires can damage them. There are also small, open areas where we plant special grasses and vegetation that wildlife like to eat; these areas are called 'food plots.'